

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

August 12, 2003

19

FROM: KEN A. MILLER, Director
Department of Public Works – Solid Waste Management Division

**SUBJECT: PURCHASE OF UNBUDGETED EQUIPMENT FOR WOOD WASTE
DISPOSAL OPERATIONS**

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) Authorize the Purchasing Agent, on behalf of the Solid Waste Management Division, to execute a sole source purchase of up to two new and/or used Air Curtain Destructors from McPherson Systems Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$175,000, as unbudgeted fixed assets needed for wood waste disposal operations related to the Bark Beetle infestation:
- 2) Authorize the Auditor/Controller Recorder to revise SWMD's FY 2003/04 budget as follows:

<u>Accounting Codes</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Increase/(Decrease)</u>
EAA-SWM-SWM-200-2445	Professional Services	(\$175,000)
EAA-SWM-OPS-440-4040	Equipment	\$175,000

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Solid Waste Management Division (SWMD), in response to the Bark Beetle infestation emergency, is operating two Air Curtain Destructors (incinerators) to burn the wood waste received at a processing site off of State Highway 173 in the Burnt Flats area near Lake Arrowhead. Wood waste brought to the site is incinerated, and the remaining ash material is disposed of at the San Timoteo Landfill.

The incinerators at the wood-waste processing site have been running on a 24-hour work schedule. However, the amount of material being delivered to the site is substantially more than the two incinerators are able to process. Due to the volume of wood waste being received from Bark Beetle operations, additional burners are needed to maximize operations and to allow uninterrupted delivery and processing of wood waste material. The Division plans to purchase one burner immediately and, if and when warranted, a second burner.

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors

19

PURCHASE OF UNBUDGETED EQUIPMENT FOR WOOD WASTE DISPOSAL OPERATIONS

August 12, 2003

Page 2 of 2

19

Approval of Recommendation No. 1 will allow the SWMD to purchase up to an additional two new and/or used Air Curtain Destructors from McPherson Systems Inc., as unbudgeted equipment, necessary for the operation of the wood waste disposal site. The two incinerators currently in operation at the waste disposal site were purchased from McPherson Systems Inc. Purchasing additional incinerators from McPherson Systems Inc. will allow SWMD to maintain uniform burner start-up, operation procedures, and burn times.

At the time the FY 2003/04 budget was adopted, it was not known that this additional equipment would be needed. Therefore, approval of Recommendation No. 2 is needed to provide SWMD with sufficient spending authority for the purchases to occur. SWMD will process the purchase of this equipment through the Purchasing Department via the Public Works equipment superintendent. At the conclusion of incinerator operations, or if there is no longer a need for this equipment, the equipment will be disposed through standard county auction contractors and the proceeds deposited with SWMD.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This item was by reviewed by Purchasing (Zack Avey, Deputy Purchasing Agent) on July 31, 2003; Deputy County Counsel Robert L. Jocks on August 1, 2003; and the County Administrative Office (Tom Forster, Administrative Analyst) on August 1, 2003.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Funds for this action in the estimated amount of \$175,000 are available in the SWMD's Fiscal Year 2003/2004 Budget through an anticipated savings in services and supplies. This savings is in the form of reduced trucking costs to the San Timoteo Landfill as more wood waste is being incinerated at the Burn Flats facility.

COST REDUCTION REVIEW: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this agenda item and concurs with the Department's proposal and recommends this action based on the following: a state of emergency exists in the local mountains due to the existence of more than 99,000 acres of dead, dying, and diseased trees that pose a significant fire threat. The purchase of up to two additional Air Curtain Destructors is necessary because it is the most cost effective method of processing the increasing amounts of wood waste generated as a result of the Bark Beetle infestation.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All.

PRESENTER: Peter H. Wulfman, 386-8703.

19